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In re Application of: Greenblatt, et al.
Application No. 10/680,049
Filed: October 7, 2003
For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
IDENTIFYING RELATED NODES IN A
DIRECTED GRAPH HAVING NAMED ARCS

DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL
(ACCELERATED EXAMINATION)
UNDER M.P.E.P. §708.02 (VIII)

This is a response to the petition filed September 30, 2004, under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d) and M.P.E.P. §708.02 (VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special.

The Petition is **DISMISSED**.

M.P.E.P. §708.02, Section VIII which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d) states in relevant part:

A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

- (a) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h);
- (b) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status;
- (c) Submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. The pre-examination search must be directed to the invention as claimed in the application for which special status is requested. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;

(d) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and

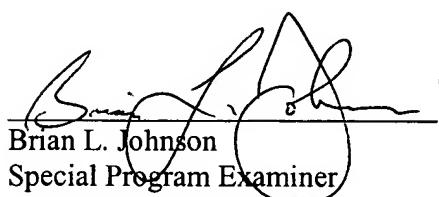
(e) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

The petition filed September 30, 2004 fails to adequately meet requirements (c) and (e) of the criteria set forth above. With respect to requirement (c), The petition fails to provide a listing of the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. Absent such a listing, the pre-examination text search **must be directed to the invention as claimed in the application for which special status is requested [emphasis added]**. Specifically, the pre-examination text search submitted with the instant petition appears to be directed to the following search terms: "rdf"; "related nodes"; "similar nodes", etc. (page 2 of instant petition), which do not appear to comprise the claimed invention. With respect to requirement (e), a complete detailed discussion of the (most closely related) references has not been provided with the necessary specificity required under 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c). In addition, Petitioner should ensure that the above discussion is directed to how the language of **each of** the independent claims is specifically distinguishable and patentable from the references provided in requirement (d) above. Finally, it is noted that the instant petition was filed on September 30, 2004 after the instant application had received a first Office action on the merits (mailed August 26, 2004), see M.P.E.P. §708.02.

Accordingly, the Petition to Make Special is **DISMISSED**.

Petitioner is given one opportunity to perfect the petition. Any request for reconsideration must be filed within TWO MONTHS of the mail date of this decision. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are permitted by a declaration or statement providing the information as outlined above.

Until the renewed petition is submitted, the application will be returned to the examiner's docket to await treatment on the merits in the normal order of examination.


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